



February 24, 2012

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

EX PARTE NOTICE

Re: Connect America Fund, WC Docket 10-90; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket 09-51; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket 07-135; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket 05-337; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket 01-92; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket 96-45; Lifeline and Link-Up, WC Docket 03-109; Universal Service Reform – Mobility Fund, WT Docket 10-208.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 23, 2012, Michael Saperstein of Frontier Communications, Melissa Newman, Jeff Lanning and Curt Frankenfeld of CenturyLink, and Genevieve Morelli and I of the Independent Telephone & Telecommunications Alliance (“ITTA”), met with Sharon Gillett, Amy Bender, Michael Byrne, Joe Cavender, Rebekah Goodheart, Patrick Halley, Trent Harkrader, and Steve Rosenberg of the Wireline Competition Bureau. We discussed the issue raised in the petitions for reconsideration filed by ITTA and jointly by Frontier and Windstream relating to price cap carriers’ eligibility for Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase 1 incremental support. Following up on the parties’ prior meeting on this issue on February 15, 2012,¹ we discussed how the current test for CAF Phase I Incremental Support eligibility could be modified to allow support recipients to demonstrate eligibility and use support to deploy service to unserved locations in partially-served census blocks and locations that cannot receive adequate broadband service.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission’s rules, a copy of this notice is being filed in the above-referenced dockets. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Micah M. Caldwell
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

cc: Sharon Gillett, Rebekah Goodheart, Steve Rosenberg, Amy Bender, Michael Byrne, Trent Harkrader, Patrick Halley, Joe Cavender

¹ Letter from Jeffrey S. Lanning to Marlene Dortch, *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket 10-90, *et al.* (filed Feb.17, 2012).